



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

April 5, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: LME Directors

FROM: Mike Moseley 

SUBJECT: Endorsement of New Community Support Providers

The Provider Endorsement Policy issued through Communication Bulletin #44 on June 20, 2005 contains strict requirements regarding timeframes by which Local Management Entities (LMEs) must process providers' applications for endorsement. The policy requires LMEs to review applications within 10 business days and schedule on-site reviews with providers within 20 business days of verification of a completed application. This communication is to notify you that until September 30, 2007, those timeframes for LME action as they relate to new applications from providers wishing to deliver Community Support Services, child and/or adult, are hereby waived.

As you know, the Department of Health and Human Services has undertaken a focused review of the Community Support service including auditing medical records, revising the service authorization policies, reviewing the rate paid for the service, and enhancing the endorsement criteria. LME staff are currently performing follow up audits and endorsement reviews of providers who were found out of compliance during the Department's audits. In addition, all of the providers who were provisionally endorsed to deliver services for 18 months at the time of the March 20, 2006 implementation of the new and revised mental health and substance abuse services must undergo full endorsement reviews prior to September 30, 2007. In recognition of all of this activity, we think it only prudent to waive the timeframes for endorsement of new Community Support providers.

In light of the impending changes to Community Support, it is possible that some providers may want to reconsider their interest in delivering the service. We are enclosing a draft letter for your use with new applicants for the service to inform them of the changes and the fact that the timeframes have been waived.

Please contact your LME liaison or Dick Oliver if you have any questions.

Enclosure

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom
Dan Stewart
Allen Dobson, M.D.
DMH/DD/SAS Executive Leadership Team
Yvonne Copeland
Sharnese Ransome
Patrice Roesler

MH Commission Chair
SCFAC Chair
The Coalition Chair
State Facility Directors
Kory Goldsmith
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